

In the claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of distinguishing items for sale by a store from items brought into the store by a shopper comprising the steps of:

a) storing first identification information associated first radio frequency identification labels on first items for sale by the store;

b) obtaining second identification information from second radio frequency identification labels on second items by a label reader in the store;

c) comparing the second identification information to the first identification information;

d) determining third identification information within the second identification information which is associated with third radio frequency identification labels on third items; and

e) ignoring the third identification information as being associated with the items brought into the store by the shopper.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

e-1) leaving the third identification information out of a transaction in the store.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

e-1) leaving the third identification information out of a security check in the store.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

f) determining fourth identification information within the second identification information which is associated with fourth radio frequency identification labels on the fourth items which are included within the first items for sale.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:

g) including the fourth items in a transaction involving the shopper in the store.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

h) storing an indication that the fourth items were sold.

7. The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

h) purging the fourth identification information from the first identification information.

8. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:

g) determining that the fourth items were not paid for during a security check in the store.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein step d) comprises the step of:

d-1) determining that the third identification information is not within the first identification information.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein step d) comprises the steps of:

d-1) determining that the third identification information is within the first identification information; and

d-2) determining that the third items were previously sold.

11. A method of distinguishing items for sale by a store from items brought into the store by a shopper comprising the steps of:

a) storing first identification information associated first radio frequency identification labels on first items for sale by the store;

b) obtaining second identification information from second radio frequency identification labels on second items by a label reader in the store;

c) comparing the second identification information to the first identification information;

d) determining third identification information within the second identification information which is not within the first identification information and which is associated with third radio frequency identification labels on third items;

e) determining fourth identification information within the second identification information which is within the first identification information and which is associated with fourth radio frequency identification labels on fourth items;

f) determining that the fourth items were previously sold; and

g) ignoring the third and fourth identification information as associated with the items brought into the store by the shopper.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

g-1) leaving the third identification information out of a transaction in the store.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein step e) comprises the step of:

g-1) leaving the third identification information out of a security check in the store.

14. A system for distinguishing items for sale by a store from items brought into the store by a shopper comprising:

a label reader for reading radio frequency identification labels on items the shopper possesses; and

a computer for obtaining first identification information from first radio frequency identification labels on the items the shopper possesses from the label reader, for comparing the first identification information to second identification information associated with the items for sale by the store, for determining third identification

information within the first identification information which is associated with third radio frequency identification labels on third items, and for ignoring the third identification information as being associated with the items brought into the store by the shopper.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the computer comprises a transaction computer.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the computer comprises a security computer.

17. The system of claim 14, wherein the computer determines that the third identification is not within the second identification information.

18. The system of claim 14, wherein the computer determines that the third identification is within the second identification information, but determines that the third items were previously sold.

19. The system of claim 15, wherein the computer also determines fourth identification information within the second identification information which is associated with fourth radio frequency identification labels on the fourth items which are included within the first items for sale, and includes the fourth items in a transaction involving the shopper in the store.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein the computer also stores an indication that the fourth items were sold.

21. The system of claim 19, wherein the computer also purges the fourth identification information from the second identification information.